

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 PM-07

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 L-03 OMB-01

PRS-01 RSR-01 INRE-00 /070 W
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FM AMCONSUL NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4385

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 916

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR BF US

SUBJ: COMMENTS ON ALTERED GOBI DRAFT NOTE ON CARRY-OVER
ARRANGEMENTS

REF: NASSAU 914

1. CABINET SECRETARY HAS PROVIDED FOLLOWING EXPLANATION OF
CHANGES IN GOBI DRAFT NOTE REPORTED REFTEL.

A. MINISTERS' BASIC DESIRE WAS TO MAKE NOTE AS CONCISE AND
DIRECT AS POSSIBLE; THEY HAD NOT PROBLEMS WITH BASIC PRIN-
CIPLES.

B. REFERENCE TO GOBI DECLARATION TO UNSYG DROPPED AS UNNEC-
ESSARY. THIS IS ALREADY COVERED IN THE WHITE PAPER AND BY
REFERENCE IN THE AGREED MINUTES.

C. THE REFERENCES TO THE ORIGINS OF OUR MILITARY RIGHTS IN
AGREEMENTS WITH THE UK (FIRST SENTENCE OF PARA TWO IN OUR
DRAFT) WAS DROPPED AS BEING TOO LONG AND UNNECESSARY.

D. THE INSERTION FURTHER ON IN THAT SAME PARAGRAPH TO READ
QTE RELATING TO EXISTING MILITARY FACILITIES AND MILITARY
OPERATING RIGHTS IN THE BAHAMAS...UNQTE IS INTENDED TO INCLUDE
ALL THE OPERATING RIGHTS COVERED IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH
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OF OUR DRAFT, WHICH IS OMITTED.

E. THE OMISSION OF REFERENCE TO MOVEMENT OF U.S. PUBLIC VESSELS "IN THE TERRITORY OF THE BAHAMAS" IS EDITORIAL AND LOGICAL. COMMENT: BARRING BAD NAVIGATION (OR SOME VALID OBJECTION BY OUR LAWYERS), PRESUMABLY OUR VESSELS ONLY OPERATE IN BAHAMIAN WATERS AND NOT TERRITORY.

F. THE CHANGES RELATING TO DURATION OF THE CARRY-OVER ARRANGEMENTS ARE PARTLY EDITORIAL AND THE PROVISION FOR EXTENSION BEYOND DECEMBER 31, 1973 APPEARS MORE GENEROUS THAN OUR OWN DRAFT.

2. I EXPLAINED TO BAIN THAT BECUASE OF THE NEED FOR CLEARANCES UNDER OUR CIRCULAR 175 PROCEDURE THIS MIGHT DELAY THE EXCHANGE. BAIN AGREED THERE WOULD BE NO PRESS RELEASE ON THE TRIPARTITE TALKS UNTIL WE HAD SETTLED ON THE NOTE TEXT.

3. FOLLOWING TELECONS WITH ARA/CAR, I RECONTACTED BAIN, EXPLAINED THE VERY REAL PROBLEMS WE WOULD HAVE WITH CLEARING A NEW TEXT AND THE CONSEQUENT DELAY IN EXCHANGING NOTES, AND ASKED THAT HE SEEK TO HAVE MINISTERS RECONSIDER THEIR POSITION AND ACCEPT THE VERSION WE HAD AGREED ON DURING LAST SESSION OF TRIPARTITE TALKS. AFTER CONTACTING MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, BAIN CALLED BACK TO SAY THAT GOBI DRAFT HAD BEEN EXAMINED BY MINISTERS, THAT THEY BELIEVED IT SAID THE SAME THING AS OUR DRAFT, AND THAT ADDERLEY REQUESTED THAT THE BAHAMIAN NOTE BE CONSIDERED IN WASHINGTON.
SPEAR

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